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Your Neighbor

Ann Bartmess

By BOBBIE THIBODEAUX
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GAUTIER — Working with flowers, both houseplants and outside beds, is Ann Sclease Bartmess' favorite form of relaxation.

"I wish I could sew," she said. "Since I had three daughters, my mother-in-law once gave me a sewing machine, but I wasn't good at it. My hands were made for the mop and broom, but my passion is digging in the dirt."

Originally from Pascagoula, she is busy helping plan the 50th reunion for her class. Co-chairwoman of the planning committee, she loves working on the project. She works in the gift shop at Cracker Barrel.

Bartmess

"I sometimes quit six months at a time, but I keep coming back like a bad penny," she said. "I love my co-workers, and I like the people who come in. We have people traveling from all over the world. There's something different every day."

Spending time with her family and friends tops her list of things to do. Her children are Michael Bartmess, Ocean Springs; Terri Bartmess, a missionary in Taiwan; Lisa Ann, deceased; Kristi Warren, Vancleave; and Brian Bartmess, Pascagoula.

She has nine grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and is expecting a third. Two of her grandchildren are involved in missionary and church work.

Her husband, Billy, is deceased. Her mother, Louise Walker, lives in Pascagoula, and she has four siblings in the area and one in Lake Tahoe, Nev.

"We've lived here a long time," she said. "My grandmother was Louise Krebs."

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